

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 866

By Womack

A RESOLUTION to congratulate and commend Tara Marisa Prairie on her outstanding work and exemplary performance as the Middle Tennessee State University Legislative intern for Senator Andy Womack.

WHEREAS, through the course of each legislative session, there have emerged certain individuals who far exceed the basic requirements set forth for them to follow; and

WHEREAS, Tara Marisa Prairie has distinguished herself as one such individual through her hard work and tireless efforts as a legislative intern for Senator Andy Womack and his staff, Sandi Jones and Jacqueline Nash; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Prairie hails from beautiful Rutherford County where she has been supported by her loving family and where she is the daughter of proud parents Michael L. and Patricia A. Prairie and sister of Amber C. and Laura A. Prairie and is the dutiful granddaughter of Mrs. Anna Marie Park and Mrs. Ruth Sterling Prairie; and

WHEREAS, Tara will be a December, 2000 graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree after having majored in Political Science while minoring in Psychology; and

WHEREAS, she has experienced the finer points of the Tennessee General Assembly and contributed greatly to the preparation of Senator Womack for floor and committee sessions; has gained keen insight into floor debates and the intricate details of the Senate Education Committee; and has learned the virtue of patience through dealing with constituents on the telephone and wading through hundreds of invitations; and

WHEREAS, she has also enjoyed the great things that come from being a legislative intern from MTSU, such as fresh doughnuts on Wednesday, hangin' with TeamWomack, including her fellow office intern Eleanor Fleming, being selected by her fellow interns as "Most Flirtatious Intern" (really?? Tara??), attending her first professional baseball game to see the Atlanta Braves vs. the Los Angeles Dodgers, and enjoying the many activities Nashville has to offer; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Prairie has been afforded those once in a lifetime opportunities that only an intern with the Tennessee General Assembly can enjoy, including, a picnic luncheon and private tour of the Governor's Mansion, an excursion to the Tennessee State Prison and the privilege of meeting Congressman Van Hilleary and Ed Bryant at the Young Republican State Convention and meeting United State Senator Bill Frist at the Rutherford County President's Day Dinner; and

WHEREAS, she has become acquainted with the things that make the Tennessee General Assembly truly unique, such as the massive daily paperwork, the never-ending bill calendars, the wonderful constituents of the 16th Senatorial District, the fresh air of the Legislative Plaza and the importance of numerical order; and

WHEREAS, Tara will soon never again as an intern view legislative battles from the staff chairs in the Senate Hearing Room, spend quality time in the Senate copy room, file fiscal notes for the masses, be sent on missions for more coffee or copies, be requested to schedule another appointment or to file a bill, or deal with Tim, the totally useless copy room guy; and

WHEREAS, her outstanding work and tremendous dedication will stand her in good stead as she begins the pursuit of her dream to become the top lobbyist for a prestigious Washington D.C. firm, until she takes a sabbatical to practice immigration law in New York City and spend the summers doing volunteer work in Eastern Europe; and

WHEREAS, she has conducted herself in a meritorious manner and learned through her internship the difference between a textbook about government full of words and the texts of words from which our real government is formed; and

WHEREAS, the only thing besides a congratulatory resolution that could make her internship complete would be a daily free lunch from La Paz or the Mad Platter, a perfect score on Strike A Match, becoming Mrs. Drake Berehowsky, or season tickets for life behind the bench to watch the Nashville Predators, none of which were included in any of the numerous budget amendments, er, budget CUT amendments filed with the Senate Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tara Marisa Prairie has performed her duties and many responsibilities with extraordinary ingenuity and decorum, which in the words of Speaker Wilder translates into "She was good"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend and congratulate Tara Marisa Prairie on her outstanding service as the Middle Tennessee State University intern for Senator Andy Womack and his staff, Sandi Jones and Jacqueline Nash, and express our deepest appreciation and thanks to her. We wish Tara every good thing in life and success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That four (4) appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.